



News Release

Minister Presents QE2 Scholarships to Nursing Students

IQALUIT, Nunavut (November 1, 2006) – Minister of Health and Social Services Leona Aglukkaq today presented the Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship for academic excellence to four Nunavut students studying to become Registered Nurses.

“This scholarship recognizes excellence in academic studies by Inuit nursing students,” Aglukkaq said. “It is so important to us all to see Inuit nurses active in our health care system.”

The scholarship winners for 2005-06 are Charlotte Zawadski (Rankin Inlet / Year 4), Sharon Owlijoot (Arviat / Year 3), Sherry Katsak-Parks (Pond Inlet/ Year 2) and Susie Nakashuk (Iqaluit / Year 2). Each received a certificate as well as a cheque to mark the occasion.

The Department of Health and Social Services established the Queen Elizabeth II Scholarship in 2002, the year the Queen last visited Nunavut. The \$2,500 scholarship is awarded annually to students who are beneficiaries of the *Nunavut Land Claims Agreement* and who achieve the highest overall academic standing among Inuit students in their year. Students in years one through three are eligible.

The four-year-long BScN degree program is offered through a partnership between Dalhousie University and Nunavut Arctic College. There are now 29 students enrolled in the program, plus an additional six students in the access year. Just over half of the students are NLCA beneficiaries. To date nine nurses have graduated from the program.

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For More Information Contact:

Nancy Campbell
Director of Communications
Health & Social Services
(867) 975-5714

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